

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 11, 16, 17, 21 and 22, and add new Claims 25 to 27 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A printer controller for controlling printing of print data, comprising:

storage adapted to store print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data;

an authentication unit adapted to authenticate a user based on authentication information manually input by a user;

a control unit adapted to enable said printer controller to print, based on user instruction, the stored print data corresponding to the authentication information if the user is authenticated by said authentication unit; and

a deletion unit adapted to delete the print data from said storage at a predetermined time, manually set by a user, if a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage, the predetermined time being not set based on ~~independently from~~ the specific period of time.

2. (Previously presented) The printer controller according to claim 1, wherein each print data stored in said storage is given a priority level, said printer controller further comprising a second deletion unit adapted to delete one of the stored print data which is given a low priority level upon detecting that said storage cannot store the print data anymore.

3. (Previously presented) The printer controller according to claim 2, wherein the print data which is given the low priority level means the print data which was received earlier than any other print data received by said printer controller.

4. (Previously presented) The printer controller according to claim 2, further comprising a notification unit adapted to notify a destination address corresponding to the deleted print data that the print data is deleted, when the print data is deleted by said second deletion unit.

5. (Previously presented) The printer controller according to claim 1, further comprising a determination unit that determines at the predetermined time, for all of the print data stored in said storage, whether the specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage,

wherein said deletion unit deletes stored print data from the storage if the specific period of time has passed for that stored print data and does not delete the stored print data if the specific period of time has not passed for that stored print data.

6. to 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A data processing method for providing a print service using storage for storing print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data, and a printer, comprising:

authentication of a user based on authentication information manually input by a user;

enabling said printer to print, based on a user instruction, the stored print data corresponding to the authentication information if the user is authenticated; and

deleting the print data from said storage at a predetermined time, manually set by a user, if a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage, the predetermined time being not set based on ~~independently from~~ the specific period of time.

12. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 11, wherein each print data stored in storage is given a priority level, said method further comprising deletion of stored print data which is given a low priority level upon detecting that storage cannot store the print data anymore.

13. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 12, wherein the print data which is given the low priority level means the print data which was received earlier than any other print data received by the printer.

14. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 12, further comprising notification of a destination address corresponding to the deleted print data that the print data is deleted, when the print data is deleted.

15. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 11, further comprising a determination at the predetermined time, for each of the print data stored in said storage, whether the specific period of time has passed since each print data was stored in said storage,

wherein the stored print data is deleted if the specific period of time has passed for that stored print data and the stored print data is not deleted if the specific period of time has not passed for that stored print data.

16. (Currently amended) A data processing method for providing a print service using an information processing apparatus using storage for storing print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data, and a printer, comprising:

a transmission of authentication information manually input by a user to print the print data, from the printer to the information processing apparatus;

authenticating a user based on the transmitted authentication information at the information processing apparatus;

transmitting the print data corresponding to the input authentication information from the information processing apparatus to the printer;

enabling the printer to print, based on user instruction, the transmitted print data if the user is authenticated; and

deleting the print data from said storage at a predetermined time, manually set by a user, if a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage, the predetermined time being not set based on ~~independently from~~ the specific period of time.

17. (Currently amended) The data processing method according to claim 16, further comprising request of the stored print data of the information processing apparatus after confirming that a [[the]] print charge for printing the selected print data is paid.

18. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 16, wherein the print data is transmitted from the information processing apparatus to the printer with information indicating a name given to the print data corresponding to the input authentication information.

19. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 16, further comprising:

transmission of a list of print data corresponding to the authentication information before transmitting the print data from the information processing apparatus to the printer if the user is authenticated;

displaying, at the printer, the transmitted list of print data on a display of the printer;

enabling the user to select print data from the displayed list of print data;

transmitting the information identifying the selected print data from the printer to the information processing apparatus; and

transmitting the selected print data from the information processing apparatus to the printer based on the transmitted information identifying the selected print data.

20. (Previously presented) The data processing method according to claim 16, further comprising deletion of print data from the printer after the end of printing the print data.

21. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a control program for a printer, said program providing a print service using storage for storing print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data and comprising:

authentication of a user based on authentication information manually input by the user;

enabling said printer to print, based on user instruction, the stored print data corresponding to the authentication information if the user is authenticated; and

deleting the print data from said storage at a predetermined time, manually set by the user, if a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage, the predetermined time being not set based on ~~independently from~~ the specific period of time.

22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium storing a control program for controlling a printer controller printing of print data by communicating with an information processing apparatus using storage for storing the print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data, comprising:

transmission of the authentication information manually input by a user to the information processing apparatus;

receiving the print data corresponding to the input authentication information from the information processing apparatus;

enabling said printer controller to print, based on the user instruction, the transmitted print data if the user is authenticated; and

deleting the print data from said storage at a predetermined time, manually set by a user, if a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage, the predetermined time being set independently from the specific period of time.

23. and 24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A printer controller for controlling printing of print data, comprising:
storage adapted to store print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data;

an authentication unit adapted to authenticate a user based on authentication information manually input by a user;

a control unit adapted to enable said printer controller to print, based on user instruction, the stored print data corresponding to the authentication information if the user is authenticated by said authentication unit;

a searching unit adapted search the print data, a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage; and

a deletion unit adapted to perform a deletion process for deleting the print data searched by said searching unit, the deletion process being performed at a predetermined time manually set by a user, the predetermined time being not set based on the specific period of time.

26. (New) A printer controller according to claim 25, wherein searching of the print data by said searching unit is performed at the predetermined time manually set by the user.

27. (New) A control method for controlling a printer controller for controlling printing of print data, comprising:

- storing print data and authentication information corresponding to the print data in storage;
- authenticating a user based on authentication information manually input by a user;
- enabling said printer controller to print, based on user instruction, the stored print data corresponding to the authentication information if the user is authenticated by said authentication unit;
- searching the print data, a specific period of time has passed since the print data was stored in said storage; and
- performing a deletion process for deleting the searched print data, the deletion process being performed at a predetermined time manually set by a user, the predetermined time being not set based on the specific period of time.